



PILOT PROGRAM: CRP ADD-ON RENTAL PAYMENT ENROLLMENT UPLAND GAME BIRD HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (UGBHEP)

Program Information: A pilot program offered by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks will provide **add-on rental payments** to qualified private landowners or operators who have been awarded a new 10-year CRP contract with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) during the 2010 general sign-up (new or re-enrolled acres qualify, private and School Trust lands qualify). See map on next page for eligible counties. Enrollment into this add-on rental payment program is based on competitive scoring. FWP will contact applicants by mid-September to inform them of program acceptance. **Application Deadline is July 23, 2010.** Specific program details follow.

UGBHEP Program Eligibility Requirements:

- A maximum of 160 acres will be considered per applicant.
- Minimum seed mix requirements (domestic or native qualify). Seed mixes must contain at least 1 bunchgrass (such as tall or bluebunch wheatgrass), 1 rhizomatous grass (such as western or intermediate wheatgrass), and 1 legume (such as alfalfa, yellow sweetclover). Crested wheatgrass and smooth brome grass seed are not permitted.
- Mid-contract management would take place during 2015 and 2016--50% to be treated each year. A "ground disturbing" treatment is required for mid-contract management, which would involve using a heavy harrow, rotary harrow, light disk or similar treatment. Haying or grazing would be allowed immediately prior to treatment if participant so chooses and if included in the FSA-CRP Conservation Plan.
- Free walk-in upland game bird hunting without additional permission OR enrollment in FWP Block Management Program. Applicants who offer additional acreage for upland game bird hunting will receive a higher score in the competitive enrollment.
- UGBHEP program signs marking project area boundaries – FWP provides signs, landowner installs them.
- Location of enrolled tracts will be published in the program Access Guide and web site.
- Enrolled CRP tracts will not be available for emergency haying or grazing practices.
- Existing CRP tracts that contain a monoculture of crested wheatgrass will not be considered.

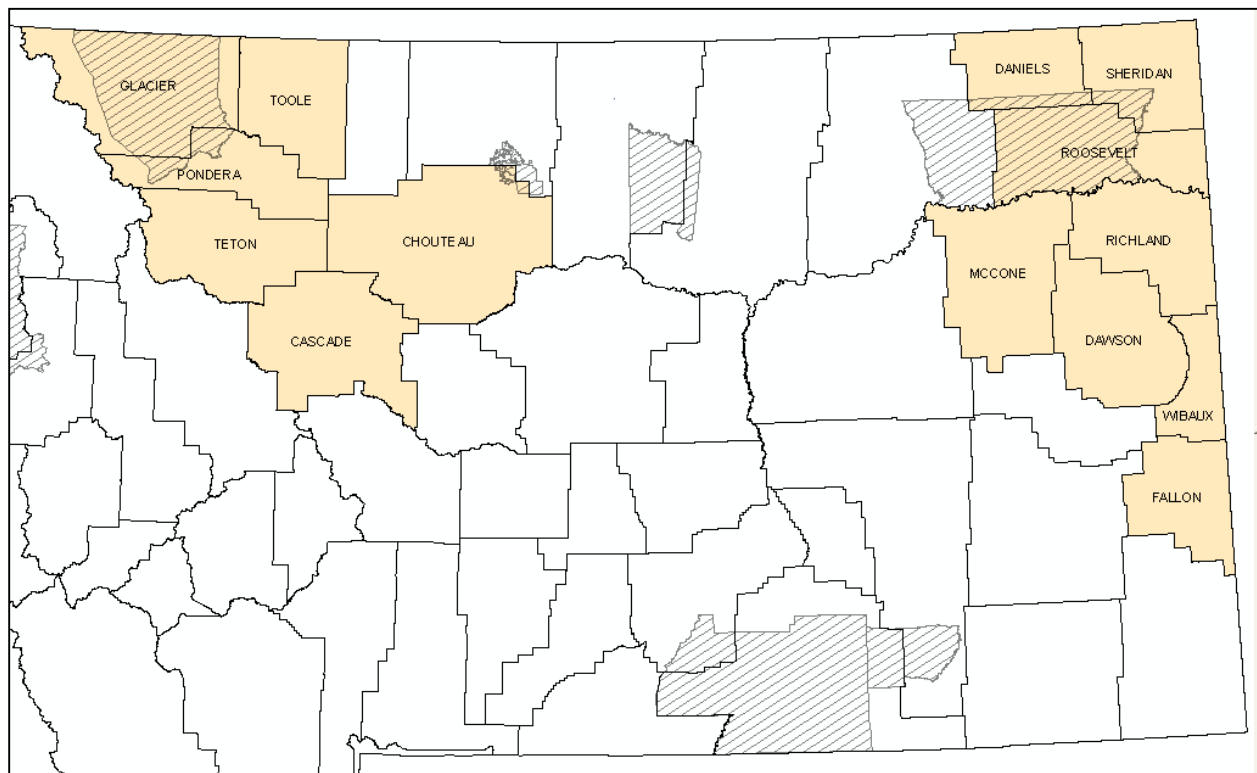
Program Payment Details:

1. **New enrollment** —FWP would pay the participant a 1-time payment of \$10/acre for native or domestic grass seed. Annual rental payments of \$5/acre would start October 1, 2011, when cover is established and would continue for up to 10 years, depending on available cover during fall 2020 hunting season. Annual payments will be made in January during the term of the contract.
2. **Re-enrollment with quality existing cover** — FWP would pay the landowner \$5/acre starting October 1, 2010 and continuing for up to 11 years, depending on available cover during fall 2020 hunting season. Annual payments will be made in January during the term of the contract.
3. **Re-enrollment with decadent monotypic cover** — FWP would require a ground disturbing treatment, as earlier described, during fall 2010 on 30% of the acreage. FWP would pay \$10/treated acre, a one-time payment. In addition, FWP would pay an annual rent of \$5/acre beginning October 1, 2010 for all enrolled CRP acres. Annual payments will be made in January during the term of the contract for up to 11 years, depending on available cover during fall 2020 hunting season.

To Apply: Submit the application to the address located at the bottom of form, post-marked **no later than July 23, 2010.** Applications must include all relevant maps showing location of CRP fields and acreage open to public access. Successful applicants will be contacted by FWP by mid-September 2010. Contracts will be written with those successful participants who are accepted into CRP.

Enrollment in the UGBHEP will be based on priority and available funding.

Figure 1 – Counties eligible for 2010 CRP add-on rental payment option via UGBEP, outside of reservation boundaries (cross-hatched).





CRP ADD-ON RENTAL PAYMENT ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION (attach map or FSA aerial photo):

Eligible CRP acres (160 maximum): _____ Number of CRP tracts: _____

- ☐ New Enrollment ☐ Re-enrollment with quality CRP ☐ Re-enrollment that requires initial enhancement in Year 1

PROPOSED PROJECT LOCATION:

County: _____

List Township(s), Range(s) and Sections(s) of affected property:

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

PUBLIC ACCESS FOR UPLAND GAME BIRD HUNTING:

Acres: _____ (Note: Applicants who offer more acres for free walk-in hunting with no further permission OR are enrolled in Block Management will receive a higher ranking score).

List Township(s), Range(s) and Sections(s) of area open to upland game bird hunting in addition to CRP acres described above:

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

T____, R____, Section(s)____; T____, R____, Section(s)____

Name of FWP contact you are working with on this project (if any): _____

I, the undersigned, am aware of the following obligations and requirements concerning enrollment in this program:

1. I cannot charge for hunting or access to the affected acres enrolled in this program.

2. Boundaries of enrolled tracts will be marked by the participant using standard Program signs. Signs must be installed and remain in place for the entire length of the contract term.
3. The location of the project will be published in the annual Upland Game Bird Access Guide as well as on the Program website for the length of the contract term.

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

I am the ☐ Operator ☐ Landowner. **Please fill out the contact information below if you are not the landowner.**

Owner Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Applicant signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For more information, please contact your local Upland Game Bird Habitat Biologists:

Ashley Beyer: 406-234-0940

Dawson

Fallon

Richland (southern)

Wibaux

Diane Boyd: 406-271-7033

Cascade

Choteau

Glacier

Pondera

Teton

Toole

Drew Henry: 406-385-7033

Daniels

Sheridan

Roosevelt

McCone

Richland (northern)

Return completed application with maps to:
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Wildlife
P.O. Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620

Applications must be postmarked by July 23, 2010